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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/091,369	03/05/2002	Kenichi Murai	15115.020001	7298
22511	7590	09/26/2005	EXAMINER	
OSHA LIANG L.L.P. 1221 MCKINNEY STREET SUITE 2800 HOUSTON, TX 77010			MCCARTHY, CHRISTOPHER S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2113	

DATE MAILED: 09/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	10/091,369		MURAI ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Christopher S. McCarthy		2113	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>response to arguments</u> . |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ono U.S. Patent 6,728,956.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ono U.S. Patent 6,728,956.

As per claim 1, Ono teaches a program update apparatus, which is used for updating an operation program through a memory device or a communication line (column 1, lines 64-67), comprising: means for maintaining a second storage area that is separated from a first storage area in which an operation program is stored; means for storing a second operation program in the second storage area in a separate manner from the first operation program stored in the first storage area (column 2, lines 1-12); selective activating means for selectively activating either the first operation program or the second operation program (column 6, lines 6-15); failure

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detecting means which detects a failure in an activation of an operation program selected to be activated or an application program that is operated on the operation program; a storage area which stores a setting that can be altered by the application program (column 6, lines 29-42); and a recovering application which recovers a setting altered by the application program for the operation of the application program (column 6, lines 6-42), wherein, in the case when the failure detecting means detects any failure in the activation of the operation program to be selected for activation, another operation program is selected to be activated, and in the case when the failure detecting means detects any failure in activation of the application program, the recovering application is used for recovering the setting required for the operation of the application program (column 6, lines 6-42).

As per claim 2, Ono teaches the program update apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising: informing means which gives information to an external device outside the program upgrade apparatus, wherein, in the case when the updating process of the operation program is not carried out correctly, by the informing means, the information indicating the incorrect updating process is given to an external device outside the program upgrade apparatus (column 9, lines 41-47).

As per claim 3, Ono teaches a program update method, which is used for updating an operation program through a memory device or a communication line, comprising the steps of: storing a second operation program in the second storage area in a separate manner from the first operation program stored in the first storage area (column 1, lines 64-67; column 2, lines 1-12); selectively activating the second operation program at the time of reactivating (column 6, lines 1-15); detecting a failure in an activation of an application program that is operated on the

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operation program (column 6, lines 6-29); in the case when any failure is detected in the activation of the application program, activating a recovering application which recovers a setting altered by the application program; and recovering the setting altered by the application program (column 6, lines 6-42).

As per claim 4, Ono teaches the program update method according to claim 3, further comprising the step of: in the case when the updating process of the operation program is not carried out correctly, giving the information indicating the incorrect updating process to an external device (column 9, lines 41-47).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 7/21/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant has amended and argued the limitation of wherein a storage area stores a setting that is altered by an application program and a recovering application which recovers the altered setting. The applicant argues that Ono does not teach this limitation. The examiner respectfully disagrees. As for the storage area storing the setting, this limitation is taught by Ono in column 6 et al. as the jump instruction in EEPROM 11. As for the limitation of altering the setting by the application program, this limitation is also taught by Ono in column 6, in which he teaches that the abnormal activation of the program in memory A 12 causes the program in memory B13 to be checked and, if B 13 is correct, the MPU changes the jump instruction to point to B 13 the next time the system is powered up. So, the failure of program in A 12, at least indirectly, causes the jump instruction to be altered. As for the recovery program, this is taught

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in column 6, lines 16-21 for instance, wherein, the automatic check program checks the program location as indicated by the setting in EEPROM 11.

In light of the above arguments, all applicable rejected claims stand.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher S. McCarthy whose telephone number is (571)272-3651. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9 - 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Beausoliel can be reached on (571)272-3645. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

csm
September 20, 2005


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